

Lib...

REPORT

OF THE



Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Borough of Barnstaple

FOR THE YEAR 1957

HEALTH
A 24 SEP 68
G.R. 23

BOROUGH OF BARNSTAPLE

- Public Health Department -

The Castle,

BARNSTAPLE.

August, 1958.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and
Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the year 1957.

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

M.O.H., Barnstaple.

I N D E X

	Page		Page
Acreage	4	Laboratory Facilities ...	11
Ambulance Service ...	11, 12		
		Maternity Cases ...	10, 12
Births and Birth Rate.	4 - 5	Meat Inspection ...	15 - 17
		Meteorological Report ...	4
		Milk and Dairies ...	20
Chest Clinic. ...	11		
		Notices and Letters ...	26
Deaths and Death Rate.	4, 5	Nursing Services ...	12
Deaths, Causes of ...	6		
Disinfections ...	10, 21	Petroleum Storage ...	23
Disinfestations ...	21, 24, 25	Poliomyelitis ...	7
Diphtheria Immunization	12	Population ...	4
		Public Health Inspector's Report	13 - 27
		Public Health Operations..	24 - 26
Explosives... ..	23		
		Rateable Value... ..	4
Factories	22 - 23	Refuse Collections & Disposal	14
Food Condemned ...	15, 16, 19	Rodent Disinfestation ...	21
Food and Drugs ...	17 - 19		
Food Preparing Premises	18	Salvage	14
		Staff	3
Health Services ...	10 - 12		
Hospital Services ...	10 - 12	Tuberculosis	7 - 8
Home Helps... ..	12		
Housing	13	Vaccination	12
		V.D. Clinic	11
Ice Cream	18		
Infant Mortality ...	4, 5	Water Supplies... ..	21
Infectious Diseases...	8, 9, 10, 21		
Inhabited Houses ...	4		
Isolation Hospitals...	10		

LIST OF STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of :-

PART-TIME OFFICER :-

F. J. H. MARTIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

WHOLE-TIME OFFICERS :-

W. RODGERS, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

F. V. PYE, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

MISS E. M. FENNELL

Clerk.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	2,396
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	...	...	...	...	15,750
Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	4,930
Rateable Value as at 1-4-1958	...	...	...	...	£259,808
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, year 1957/58 (Estimate).	...	...	...	...	£1,005

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

I am obliged to the Barnstaple Meteorological Station at the North Devon Athenaeum for the following information:-

BAROMETER	Highest reading 30.7 ins. on 16th January. on 11th December.	Lowest reading 28.7 ins.
TEMPERATURE	Maximum 85° on 18th June. Mean for the year 51.3°.	Minimum 21° on 16th December.
RAINFALL	32.71 ins. Average for preceding 10 years 33.48 ins. Number of days on which .01 ins. or more of rain fell, 183.	

VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
LIVE BIRTHS, Legitimate	...	113	125	238
illegitimate	...	8	9	17
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population	...	...	...	16.19
		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
STILL BIRTHS, Legitimate	...	5	1)	Total 6
illegitimate	...	-	-)	
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births			...	22.98
		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
DEATHS	...	119	108	227
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.41

The Table appended shows the comparative figures for Barnstaple, and England & Wales

The Local Birth and Death Rates are shown corrected by the Area Comparability Factors.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population			Death Rate per 1,000 population	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births		Deaths under 1 year	Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years
Barnstaple	16.67	0.38	12.68	11.76	0
England & Wales	16.1	-	11.5	23.0	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

			<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	1		1)	3
Illegitimate...	...	...	1		-)	
Rate per 1,000 live births		...	...	...	...	11.76

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS

			<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	1		1)	3
Illegitimate...	...	...	1		-)	
Rate per 1,000 live births		...	...	...	...	11.76

LOCAL DEATHS OVER 65 YEARS

65 - 69	...	29	85 - 89	...	22
70 - 74	...	40	90 - 94	...	7
75 - 79	...	33	95 plus	...	4
80 - 84	...	34	Total	...	169

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957

	M	F
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis, Other	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus... ..	6	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	6
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System... ..	16	24
Coronary Disease, Angina	33	13
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	8
Other Heart Disease	23	35
Other Circulatory Disease	2	2
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	3	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea... ..	2	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	8	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1
All Other Accidents	2	5
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-
ALL Causes	119	108
TOTAL	227	

POLIOMYELITIS

One case of Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic) occurred in the Borough. (This case was diagnosed at a local hospital, but had been admitted from outside the area.)

TUBERCULOSIS

A comprehensive Mass Radiography Survey was held in Barnstaple in July, and covered the Barnstaple Borough and Rural District.

The total number of persons examined was 10,350, viz. 4,914 Males and 5,436 Females. The results were as follows:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis -

	Male	Female	Total
(a) Active cases	2	4	6
(b) Cases requiring further observations	13	19	32
(c) Healed cases	31	27	58

Cancer -

Carcinoma of Lung	1	1	2
-------------------	---	---	---

The following two tables show cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year and the deaths from this disease. Sexes are separated.

Age Periods				NEW CASES					
				PULMONARY		Meninges & C.N.S.		OTHER	
				M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 4 years	...	...				1		1	
5 - 9 "	...	...					
10 - 14 "	...	...		1					
15 - 19 "	...	...					
20 - 24 "	...	...		1					
25 - 34 "	...	...			1				1
35 - 44 "	...	...		1					
45 - 54 "	...	...					
55 - 64 "	...	...		1	1				
65 and over	...	...					
TOTAL	...	...		4	2	1	-	1	1

Age Periods				DEATHS			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M	F	M	F
Under 1 year							
1 - 4 years	...	...		-	-	-	-
5 - 9 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
10 - 14 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
15 - 19 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
20 - 24 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
25 - 34 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
35 - 44 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
45 - 54 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
55 - 64 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
65 and over	...	...		-	-	-	-
TOTAL	...	...		NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

Age Groups	DIPHTHERIA	ERYSIPELAS	MEASLES	MENINGO- COCCAL INFECTION	OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	PNEUMONIA	POLIOMYELITIS		PUERPERAL PYREXIA	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPIING COUGH
							PARAL.	NON- PARAL			
Under 1 year	...		1		1	1					30
1 +	...		4	1							26
2 +	...		2								27
3 +	...		4								30
4 +	...		2								34
5 to 9 years	...		2								94
10 to 14 "	...		2								7
15 to 19 "	...					1	1 suspect 1 (neg)				1
20 to 34 "	...					1	1 (pos)		8	1	2
35 to 44 "	...	3				3			2		1
45 to 64 "	...										
65 years & over	...										
Age unknown	...										
TOTAL	0 NIL	3	15	+ 1	* 1	6	0 2	NIL	10	1	1252

0 DIPHTHERIA: Twelfth consecutive year.

+ MENINGOCOCCAL)
INFECTION) Local case at North Devon Infirmary (Meningitis).

* OPHTHALMIA)
NEONATORUM) at North Devon Infirmary from outside area.

0 POLIOMYELITIS: Both cases at N.D. Infirmary (1 local, 1 outside). Transferred to Isolation Hospital.
Local case - negative. Outside case - positive.

1 PUERPERAL)
PYREXIA) 6 cases at N.D. Infirmary, 4 at "Highfield" Maternity Home. (4 local cases, 6 outside).

1 WHOOPIING COUGH: 1 case removed to Hospital.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

TUBERCULOSIS

Hawley Sanatorium, situated in the Borough, has 28 beds.

MATERNITY CASES

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 14 beds, with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

At Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, there are 10 beds for Maternity and Ante-natal patients.

There are 4 beds at Braunton Nursing Home.

NOTE: During 1957, 3 Barnstaple Births took place at Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, and 1 at Braunton Nursing Home.

A General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is situated at "Highfield", Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

ISOLATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is an Infectious Diseases Isolation Hospital at Bideford, - the Kingsley Hospital - which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon.

SMALL-POX

The Small-Pox Hospital to which any cases of Small-Pox will be sent is Upton Pine Hospital, near Exeter.

Special ambulance transport can be obtained by contacting the isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, Telephone 67158.

DISINFECTION

By local arrangement the steam disinfection apparatus at Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, is available if required.

GENERAL

The North Devon Infirmary situated in Barnstaple, serves the area, and provides modern Medical and Surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

Wards at the Alexandra Hospital are now set aside as an Annexe to the North Devon Infirmary, and post-operative and recovery patients are transferred there as soon as practicable.

There are 101 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital in Barnstaple.

At Braunton Nursing Home there are 4 beds for sick persons.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The main Laboratory is situated at 7 Dix's Field, Exeter, and Dr. B. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all doctors. Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon Area. The Blood Bank is also situated at this Laboratory.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

V.D. Clinic. This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Glossop Annexe.

Sessions -

Females.	Mondays,	4.00 p.m.	Males.	Mondays,	5.15 p.m.
	Thursdays,	4.30 p.m.		Thursdays,	5.45 p.m.

Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Glossop Annexe.

Sessions -

Tuesdays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)	
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)	
Thursdays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	)	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)	
Fridays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)	
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	)	A.P. refills

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e., the Devon County Council), is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves the Borough and the district around, and the Head Quarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple.

The staff consists of 3 paid members, (full time), 20 men volunteers and 14 volunteer nurses.

The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon application to the Hospital by the Doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the Ambulance is not necessary.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There are 2 District Nurses, and 3 District Nurse/Midwives practising in the Borough.

HOME HELPS SCHEME

This Scheme was started in March, 1949, and is run by the W.V.S. for the Devon County Council. It covers Barnstaple Borough and Rural Areas, wherever transport is available, and the Scheme is directed by Mrs. M. Hughes.

There are now 60 Home Helps, and 415 cases were dealt with in 1957, as compared with 54 Home Helps and 393 cases in 1956.

Any case recommended by a Doctor, Health Visitor, or District Nurse, will be considered for a Home Help. The Home Helps do any work in the House normally done by the Housewife.

Home Helps are now looking after 69 aged people, who are living by themselves and would otherwise have to go to hospital.

During the year 1957 Home Helps rendered assistance in the homes of 15 maternity cases.

19 blind people also received assistance from the Service.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

Immunization carried out during 1957 was as follows:-

Number of children who received a course of			
Primary Injections	...	...	...
			247
Number of children who received a Reinforcing			
Injection	...	...	...
			217

NOTE: FOR THE TWELFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR NO CASES OF DIPHTHERIA WERE NOTIFIED.

VACCINATION

Number of children vaccinated against Small-pox = 263:-

Primary Vaccinations	...	...	...	176
Re-Vaccinations	...	...	...	87

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
The Castle,
BARNSTAPLE.

July, 1958.

To: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a Report on the work of your Public Health Inspectors, for the Year 1957.

There were no changes in the personnel of the Department during 1957.

This year, again, the greatest number of visits paid was on meat inspection duties, a feature which it is expected will recur for some years to come. Visits under the Housing Acts, also, were increased as the further stages of the plan to secure the early demolition of many unfit houses developed, and a Public Inquiry held in April concerned some 115 houses in the Derby district. Their demolition was approved as a result. The Rent Act, 1957, also brought increased work for the Department, as tenants of houses still "in control" are entitled to submit lists of disrepair to landlords who seek to raise rents to the statutory level, and though this Act is intended as a matter between landlord and tenant, the Local Authority may issue Certificates of Disrepair where justified, and these have the effect of staying the proposed rent increase. Many visits and interviews resulted from such applications for Certificates.

The main duties of the Department are referred to under the following headings:-

(1) HOUSING ACTS & PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS -

664 premises were visited, and 447 re-visits made as a result of action taken.

Many visits were paid to houses subsequently included in Compulsory Purchase Orders, and others to be included in future programmes. Present day working conditions are such that many houses are unoccupied during the normal working hours, and these had to be visited in the evenings.

Under the Public Health Acts no statutory notices were served, but many repairs and improvements were effected by informal action: these are detailed in a later table.

The total number of houses built during the year was:-

By Local Authority	.... 84
By Private Enterprise	.... 17

(2) REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL -

There are 3 vehicles regularly engaged in Refuse Collection, and each averages 100 miles per week. One of these is a veteran of 26 years which is perpetuated because it alone is capable of traversing some by-ways of the Borough.

A further attempt was made during the year to secure proper and approved containers, where these were not found.

By the end of the year, approximately 5 acres of the land acquired at Seven Brethren's Bank for Refuse Disposal had been covered by controlled tipping. The mechanical bulldozer now used fully justifies the operative word "controlled", for it is noticeable where this vehicle succeeded the previous method of manual trimming, and the pre-arranged level of finished tip is surprisingly near-maintained.

(3) SALVAGE -

There was a hopeful upward trend in the market for salvageable articles, chiefly owing to a new outlet found for ferrous scrap metal recovered from the Refuse Tip. For the first time for some years, the actual sales of Salvage exceeded the Estimate for the Year.

The following table shows the quantities of materials salvaged, together with their value:

	Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.				£ s. d.		
Mixed Waste Paper	21	14	3	0	70.	13.	6.
Scrap Metal	23.	5	3	0	69.	17.	3.
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	45	0	2	0	140.	10.	9.
	<hr/>				<hr/>		

Since 1939, 1,970 tons of Salvage have been sold, value £13,350.

(4) MEAT INSPECTION -

In this field, record-breaking seems inevitable each succeeding year. For 1957 the number of animals slaughtered and inspected was 56,660 - easily the highest ever recorded, and this in premises erected nearly 100 years ago for the immediate needs of the district. Under such conditions some discord and cause for complaint is inescapable. How long this overcrowded undertaking will have to operate at this capacity is a perennial question, for Government policy on Slaughterhouses has undergone a change, and there is as yet no sign of a privately organised alternative.

The only Private Slaughterhouse licensed was very little used.

A great amount of overtime and week-end visits was again required to ensure 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered.

56,660 Food Animals were slaughtered and inspected as follows:-

	<u>Public</u> <u>Abattoir</u>	<u>Private</u> <u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>Total</u>
Beasts	3,675	-	3,675
Calves	2,271	-	2,271
Sheep	37,608	62	37,670
Pigs	13,044	-	13,044
	<u>56,598</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>56,660</u>

In addition, the following were brought in dressed for inspection:-

Beasts, 1. Calves, 1. Sheep, 8. Pigs, 1. Total: 11.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat condemned at Public Abattoir	46	7	2	11
Meat condemned at Private Slaughterhouse	-	-	-	-

Whole carcasses condemned include the following:-

Beasts: 112. Calves: 37. Sheep: 390. Pigs: 35. Total: 574.

21 Licences were issued to Slaughtermen.

The following table is in the form required by the Ministry, for Annual Reports:-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	3,055	620	2,271	37,608	13,044	Nil
" brought in dressed..	-	1	1	8	1	Nil
Number inspected.. ...	3,055	621	2,272	37,616	13,045	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole Carcases condemned...	12	75	36	390	27	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	481	328	2	1,015	66	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	16.1%	64.9%	1.7%	3.7%	0.7%	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned...	7	18	1	Nil	8	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	74	102	1	Nil	330	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.6%	19.3%	0.09%	Nil	2.6%	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	21	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	21	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

There was an increase: 19.3% against 17.1% in the percentage of Cows found to be tuberculous in any degree. This may be because large numbers of dairy cows are found to be "re-actors" to Tuberculin tests as herds are submitted for examination to attain "Attested" status.

All cases of Generalised Tuberculosis were again notified to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food, whose veterinary inspectors visit the herds in question and test for other affected animals.

Examinations for *Cysticercus Bovis* (the embryo form of a tapeworm infesting man) continued, and 26 cases were found - an increase of 2 on the previous year. The incidence of infection was .70% against .72% in 1956.

Much valuable assistance is given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Veterinary Laboratory at Starcross, in examination of specimens and confirmation of the rarer diseases.

(v) FOOD PREMISES -

(a) The Devon County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority, but the sampling provisions are exercised locally in cases of emergency or special interest. The sample mentioned below was of this latter type.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Result of Examination</u>
Hen Egg Albumen (Danish origin) (Used by local bakery)	No organisms of any pathogenic significance were isolated on culture.

(b) The following is a list of Food Premises * in the Borough:-

Bread & Cakes	16
Cafes & Restaurants	22
Cooked Meats, etc.	3
Dairies	18
Fish (Wet)	6
Fish & Chips	9
Fruit & Vegetables	24
Groceries & General) Provisions)	66
Ice Cream	1
Meat	31
Mineral Water Factories	2
Public Houses & Hotels	46
Sweets & Confectionery	109
Wines & Spirits (Off Licences)	4
	<u>357</u>

N.B. * Where, as often applies, a food shop deals in more than one of the above commodities, the premises have been classified according to the predominating type of business.

(c) 130 premises are registered under Sec.16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, - 48 for the preparation of processed foods, and 82 for the sale of Ice Cream.

(d) 128 inspections of registered food premises were carried out during the year, and 2,406 visits were made to all types of food premises.

The general standard of cleanliness and food hygiene is very good:

(e) 25 samples of Ice Cream were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. It will be noted from the following table that every one of these attained Grade I.

Producer	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
No. 1	8	-	-	-	8
2	8	-	-	-	8
3	8	-	-	-	8
4	1	-	-	-	1
	25	-	-	-	25

Food Inspected and surrendered as unfit for human consumption was as listed below:-

TINNED FOOD						<div>Total Weight: 3,689 lbs. 13$\frac{1}{4}$oz.</div>
Coffee	...	...	...	2	tin(s)
Cream	...	...	...	8	"
Fish	...	...	...	75	"
Fruit	...	...	...	1,224	"
Fruit Juice	..	...	...	60	"
Meat	...	...	...	484	"
Milk	...	...	...	77	"
Milk Pudding..	...	...	...	11	"
Preserves	...	...	...	43	"
Soups	...	...	...	70	"
Spaghetti	...	...	...	1	"
Sweet Corn	...	...	...	2	"
Vegetables	...	...	...	204	"
				2,261	"	

OTHER FOOD						
				lbs.	ozs.	
Almonds (ground)	...	...	...	1	8	
Bacon	...	...	...	8	8	
Biscuits	...	...	...	2	6	
Butter	...	...	...	6	0	
Cake	...	...	...	56	8	
Cheese	...	...	...	232	0	
Chicken (13)	...	...	...	57	0	
Fish (wet)	...	...	...	232	0	
Fruit Jelly (1 jar)	...	...	...		4	
Honey (2 jars)	...	...	...	2	0	
Jam (3 jars)	...	...	...	3	0	
Lemonade Powder	...	...	...	7	8	
Meat (from Butchers' Shops)	...	...	...	255	4	
Meat (opened tins)	...	...	...	26	7	
Meat Pastes (2 jars)...	...	...	...	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Onions (2 jars)	...	...	...	1	4	
Prawns (2 jars)	...	...	...		5	
Rice	...	...	...	8	0	
Sausages	...	...	...	125	4	
Soup Mix (1 pkt.)	...	...	...		1 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Suet (Beef) (1 packet)	...	...	...		4	
Tapioca	...	...	...	12	8	
Tomato Purée (3 tubes)	...	...	...	1	5	
				1,039 lbs	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	

(vi) MILK AND DAIRIES:

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Borough Public Health Department is responsible for the following administrative duties:-

- (a) The Sanitary conditions of the Distributive trade other than Producer-Retailers.
- (b) Control by Licence of the sale of milk bearing special Designations.
- (c) Provision with regard to the infection of milk from human infectious diseases and from certain diseases of bovine origin.
- (d) The prevention of the sale of milk from animals infected by Tuberculosis and other specified conditions.

The number of Dairies in the Borough registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949-1954 is 18.

The following Licences were issued to sell milk under special Designations:-

Tuberculin Tested (Raw)	...	7
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		7
Pasteurised	... ..	3
Channel Island (Pasteurised)...		1

40 Samples of milk were submitted to the County Public Health Laboratory for the detection of tubercle. 33 were Negative, and 7 were inconclusive, (Guinea-pigs died of intercurrent disease).

The Borough is, eventually, to be in an area where all Milk retailed will have to be Heat Treated (i.e. Sterilised or Pasteurised) or Designated (i.e. Tuberculin-Tested). Meanwhile, the results in the preceding paragraph show efforts made to ensure that milk sold is free from Tuberculosis. All Producers in the Borough are so sampled every few months, and no positive result was recorded during the year.

(vii) WATER SUPPLIES -

The mains water supply for the Borough of Barnstaple is satisfactory, both as regards quantity and quality.

The Department receives weekly Reports on samples submitted by the North Devon Water Board for bacteriological examination: no unsatisfactory report was made during the year.

(viii) RODENT DISINFESTATION -

This work, which once justified the employment of a full-time Operator, is now one of many duties done by one man. Reports of infestations are now very few, and only the sewerage system requires regular treatments. This was again done during the year.

(ix) INFECTIOUS DISEASES & DISINFECTION -

Investigations made concerning Infectious

Disease Cases and Contacts:-

Poliomyelitis (including 1 "suspect")	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				3
				<hr/>

Disinfections carried out:-

Cancer	...	...	...	...	2
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis (contact)	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					7
					<hr/>

(x) FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948:

The following tables show inspections, etc., carried out during 1957:-

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Non-Mechanical Factories	22	14	-	-
2. Mechanical Factories	139	223	-	-
3. Other premises (excluding Out Workers premises)	7	-	-	-
Total	168	237	Nil	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	14	8	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	-	1	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not relating to Home Work)	2	2	2	-	-
Total	19	11	3	1	Nil

Nature of work	O U T W O R K					
	Section 110				Section 111	
	Number of Out-workers in August 1957	Number of Cases of Default in sending lists	Number of Prosecutions for failure to send lists	Number of instances work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel - Making	105	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lace Curtains and Nets	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	109	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(xi) PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVE ACT:

The following storage licences were granted under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928:-

Petroleum Spirit	59
Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium	2
Petroleum Spirit and Crude Benzol	1
Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures	6
Petroleum Mixtures... ..	6
Petroleum Mixtures and Carbide of Calcium	1
	<u>75</u>

The quantities stored are as follows:-

Petroleum Spirit	241,948 gallons
Carbide of Calcium... ..	816 lbs.
Crude Benzol	3,800 gallons
Petroleum Mixtures... ..	1,772 gallons

The amount of fees received by the Local Authority for the above Licences was £55. 0. 0.

The number of premises registered for the storage of Mixed Explosives was 38.

THE FOLLOWING IS A DETAILED LIST OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1957

	Public Health Act	Food & Drugs Act	Milk & Dairies and Meat Regs.	Factories Acts	Housing Acts
New sets of house drains laid	2	-	-	-	-
Drains repaired	9	-	-	-	-
Drains cleared	19	-	-	-	-
Smoke & water tests applied	7	-	-	-	-
New soil pipes fixed	4	1	-	1	-
Fresh air inlets provided	1	-	-	-	-
New vent pipes provided	3	1	-	1	-
New inspection chambers built	4	2	-	1	-
New interceptors fixed	1	-	-	1	-
New gullies fixed	5	1	-	-	-
Additional W.C's provided	1	-	-	2	-
New W.C. pans provided	11	1	-	2	-
Flushing cisterns repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Roofs repaired or renewed	3	-	-	-	-
Guttering repaired or renewed	1	-	-	-	-
Ceilings repaired	-	2	-	-	-
Walls repaired	3	3	-	-	-
Dampness remedied	1	-	-	-	-
Plaster repaired - external	2	-	-	-	-
" " - internal	2	1	-	-	-
Yards repaired	3	-	-	-	-

Table continued on Page 25.

Public Health Operations (continued from Page 24.)

	Public Health Act	Food & Drugs Act	Milk & Dairies and Meat Regs.	Factories Acts	Housing Acts
Floors repaired or renewed	3	3	-	-	-
New windows fixed	1	-	-	-	-
Windows repaired	2	-	-	-	-
Lighting improved	-	1	-	-	-
Doors repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Staircases repaired or renewed	1	-	-	-	-
Handrails provided	1	-	-	-	-
Kitchen stoves repaired	2	-	-	-	-
Sculleries provided	2	-	-	-	-
New sinks provided	-	4	-	-	-
Sink waste pipes fixed	2	1	-	-	-
Washing facilities provided	-	21	-	-	-
Water supply improved	-	2	-	-	-
Rooms cleansed	-	46	-	-	-
Food protected from contamination	-	34	-	-	-
Means of escape in case of fire improved	-	-	-	6	-
Premises where nuisances abated	83	-	-	-	-
Vermin and other pests eradicated	46	-	-	-	-
Houses demolished	-	-	-	-	30
Houses closed	-	-	-	-	20

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, &c.

Visits made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,577
Houses inspected, Public Health Act..				...	...	...	...	307
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	354
Houses inspected, Housing Acts			...	...	...	...	...	357
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Visits to slaughterhouses...			...	...	...	...	...	1,777
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Food preparing premises	...		...	...	...	...	...	101
Other food shops...		...	...	...	...	...	...	320
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Milk Vehicles (including Sampling)...				...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Ice Cream premises.		...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	237
Offensive Trade Premises	...		...	...	...	...	...	1
Outworkers' premises		...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Rodent control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Refuse tip	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	329
Petroleum storage..		...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Infectious Disease Investigation			...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous Letters written			...	...	...	...	...	75
Informal Notices, Public Health Act..				...	...	...	...	45
" " (Secondary) Public Health Act				...	...	...	...	15
Verbal Notices		...	...	...	...	...	...	85

I am grateful again to all members and officials of the Corporation for their courtesy and co-operation during the year, and to all members of the Department who have performed their various duties so ably.

It has become an annual pleasure to say how ably Mr. Pye and Miss Fennell have played their parts with unstinting co-operation and cheerfulness, and I am very grateful for their assistance during the year.

Your obedient servant,

W. RODGERS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

